

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Continuation application) Anticipated Group
of:) Art Unit: 3621
Michael D. Powell)
Parent Serial No.: 09/747,748)
Filed: 12/22/2000)
Entitled: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR)
A CRYPTOGRAPHICALLY ASSISTED)
COMMERCIAL NETWORK SYSTEM DESIGNED)
TO FACILITATE IDEA SUBMISSION,)
PURCHASE AND LICENSING AND)
INNOVATION TRANSFER)

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Introductory Comments:

Before examination of the above-identified continuation application, please amend the application as originally filed as follows:

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at Page 1, lines 6-9, with the following rewritten paragraph: